



H.Res. 535 - Commending David Ray Ritcheson, a survivor of one of the most horrific hate crimes in the history of Texas, and recognizing his efforts in promoting Federal legislation to combat hate crimes

Floor Situation

H.Res. 535 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Rep. Sheila Jackson-Lee (D-TX) on July 11, 2007. The bill was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary but was never considered.

H.Res. 535 is expected to be considered on the floor on July 23, 2007.

Summary

This legislation mourns the passing of David Ray Ritcheson and commends him for his efforts to raise awareness towards the eradication and elimination of hate crimes in the United States.

Background

On April 23, 2006, at the age of 16, David Ray Ritcheson was severely assaulted while attending a party in Spring, Texas.

He spent more than three months in the hospital as a result of the injuries he suffered in the assault. He endured more than 30 surgeries to restore his appearance and regain the normal use of his bodily functions.

David Ray Ritcheson's testified before the House of Representatives to pass the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2007 (H.R. 1592). H.R. 1592 passed the House of Representatives on May 3, 2007 with a vote of 237 yeas to 180 nays.

On July 1, 2007, David Ray Ritcheson passed away at the age of 18.

Cost

At the time of publication the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) had not yet scored this legislation.

Staff Contact

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